

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0739

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: RESULTS OF LUANDA FRONT LINE SUMMIT

REF: MAPUTO 0723

1. SUMMARY SERGIO VIEIRA HAS RETURNED FROM LUANDA
SUMMIT REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT TWO REMAINING ISSUES
OF WALVIS BAY AND STATUS OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS CAN
BE RESOLVED WITHIN CONTEXT OF CONTACT GROUP
PROPOSAL. HE SAID SWAPO AND FRONT LINE WISH KNOW WHAT
WESURN FIVE WILL DO IF SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD REFUSE
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NEGOTIATED ON WALVIS BAY. ON LOCATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN
TROOPS, VIEIRA EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SA FORCES MIGHT BE LOCATION
"SOUTH OF WNDHOEK", BUT EMPHASIZED IT MORE IMPORTANT THAT
THEY BE UNABLE TO LAUNCH ATTACKS.
END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET WITH SERGIO VIEIRA, GOVERNOR

BANKHOF MOZAMBIQUE AND ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT MACHEL. ON 14 JUNE TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL MATTERS. VIEIRA ATTENDED LUANDA SUMMIT AND FOLLOWS NAMIBIA DEVELOPMENTS AS CLOSELY AS ANYONE IN GPRM. VIEIRA ATTENDED UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA IN APRIL MAY AND MET WITH SECRETARY VANCE. VIEIRA CAST THE SUMMIT IN GENERALLY FAVORABLE TERMS AND NOTED THAT SWAPO IS READY TO RESUME TALKS WITH THE CG IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE TWO REMAINING ISSUES: WALVIS BAY AND THE LOCATION AND CONTROLS OVER SAG TROOPS IN NAMIBIA DURING THE TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE.

3. ON WALVIS BAY, VIEIRA SAID SWAPO IS AFRAID THAT AFTER INDEPENDENCE THE SAG WILL SIMPLY REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE WITH NAMIBIA CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF WALVIS BAY. HE ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN AFTER INDEPENDENCE IF THE SAG EITHER CLOSED WALVIS BAY TO NAMIBIA OR SIMPLY ALLOWED NAMIBIA TO USE THE "RAPID RESTITUTION" ON WB TO NAMIBIA.. VIEIRA NOTED THAT THE CG POSITION ON A DECLARATION OR RESOLUTION CONCERNING WB WAS A STEP FORWARD AND A MORAL COMMITMENT, BUT STRESSED THAT CG MUST BE WILLING TO TAKE PRACTICAL STEPS AND BE PREPARED TO PRESSURE SA SHOULD SAG-NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS ON WALVIS BAY REACH AN IMPASSE.

4. ON THE POSITIONING AND ACTIVITIES OF SAG TROOPS IN NAMIBIA DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD, VIEIRA SAID THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FRONT LINE AND SWAPO REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE EVEN MORE NOW THAT SAG BASES WERE USED FOR THE CASSINGA RAID. VIEIRA SAID THE LEADERS AT THE SUMMIT FELT THAT SAG TROOPS SHOULD BE STATIONED "SOUTH OF WINDHOEK" BUT NOT NECESSARILY AT KARASBURG. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT ATTEMPTS TO ALTER LOCATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS COULD GIVE SA A REASON TO WITHDRAW ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL, AND ASKED HOW DETERMINED SWAPO OR FRONT LINE STATES WERE THAT SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS NOT BE LOCATED IN NORTH. VIEIRA RESPONDED THAT THE FEELINGS OF SWAPO ARE IMPORTANT IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE RAIDS INTO ANGOLA, AND OPINED THAT THE ATTACKS HAD SHOWN THAT THE SAG IS NOT VERY RELIABLE OR TRUSTWORTHY. HOWEVER, VIEIRA THEN EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE RELOCATING THE RESIDUAL SA FORCE SOUTH OF WINDHOEK WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO SWAPO AND THE FRONT LINE FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL REASONS, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAT SAG FORCES BE UNABLE TO LAUNCH ATTACKS OR OTHERWISE IMPEDE THE INDEPENDENCE PROCESS. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT THE CG PROPOSAL FOR UN FORCES IN NAMIBIA, IN NUMBERS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE UN, SHOULD BE A SUFFICIENT SAFEGUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE DISRUPTIVE SA ACTIVITIES.

5. COMMENT. VIEIRA'S ATTITUDE ON THE PROSPECTS FOR A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT SEEMED UPBEAT. AT NO TIME DID HE SUGGEST THAT SWAPO OR FRONT LINE STATES WOULD INSIST ON ANY FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN CG PROPOSAL. SWAPO WILL NO DOUBT PRESS HARD FOR RELOCATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS BUT VIEIRA LEFT US WITH IMPRESSION THAT FRONT LINE STATES AND PERHAPS SWAPO IN END MIGHT ACCEPT LOCATION IN NORTH PROVIDED WE CAN PERSUADE THEM THAT US PRESENCE PRECLUDES ANY POSSIBILITY THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE ABLE TO LAUNCH SECOND CASSINGA. ON WALVIS BAY, VIEIRA APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT THE CG IS COMMITTED TO THE INCLUSION OF WB IN NAMIBIA. AND WHILE HE WOULD LIKE MORE SPECIFICS ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING HE SEEMED TO HAVE NO SERIOUS OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSAL AS CURRENTLY OUTLINED.

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